

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in the application as originally filed. Claims 1-8 have been cancelled and claims 9-32 have been added in this amendment.

I. REJECTION FOR NON-STATUTORY TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 on the ground of non-statutory type double patenting over claims 1, 2, 8, 14, and 22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,771,706. As claims 1-8 are being cancelled, the rejection is now moot.

II. REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Ling et al. (US Patent No. 6,961,388). As claims 1-8 are being cancelled, the rejection is now moot.

III. NEW CLAIMS 9-32

New claims 9-32 each contain one or more novel features over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested. If the Examiner would like to further discuss this matter or any issue, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (858) 845-0130.

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Respectfully submitted,

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